House of Representatives



General Assembly

File No. 443

February Session, 2012

Substitute House Bill No. 5365

House of Representatives, April 16, 2012

The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. FOX, G. of the 146th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING COURT OPERATIONS AND VICTIM SERVICES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Section 2-40a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):
- Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of section 1-210
- 4 and chapter 55, (1) any performance evaluation of any judge or judge
- 5 <u>trial referee</u> made by the Judicial Department shall be made available
- 6 to the members of the joint standing committee on judiciary prior to
- 7 any public hearing on the nomination of any such judge <u>or judge trial</u>
- 8 referee, and (2) any performance evaluation of any judge by the
- 9 <u>Judicial Department shall be made available</u> to the members of the
- 10 Judicial Selection Commission in the performance of their duties as set
- 11 forth in section 51-44a. Any information disclosed to such members
- shall be used by such members only for the purpose for which it was
- 13 given and shall not be disclosed to any other person.

Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 6-32d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

- (c) The Judicial Department may enter into an agreement with [state agencies] <u>any appropriate agency</u> for the management, training or coordination [, or any combination thereof,] of courthouse security and prisoner custody and transportation functions, <u>or any other matter</u> relating to security.
- Sec. 3. Section 14-140 of the general statutes, as amended by section 21 of public act 09-177 and section 6 of public act 10-54, is repealed and 24 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1*, 2013):
 - (a) Any person who has been arrested by an officer for a violation of any provision of any statute relating to motor vehicles may be released, upon his own recognizance, by such officer in his discretion, unless such violation is of a provision relating to driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs or using a motor vehicle without permission of the owner or evading responsibility for personal injury or property damage or involves the death or serious injury of another, in which cases such person shall not be released on his own recognizance.
 - (b) If any person so arrested or summoned wilfully fails to appear for any scheduled court appearance at the time and place assigned, or if any person charged with an infraction involving the use of a motor vehicle, or with a motor vehicle violation specified in section 51-164n, as amended by this act, fails to pay the fine and any additional fee imposed or send in his plea of not guilty by the answer date or wilfully fails to appear for any scheduled court appearance which may be required, or if any person fails to pay any surcharge imposed under section 13b-70, any fee imposed under section 51-56a or any cost imposed under section 54-143 or 54-143a, a report of such failure shall be sent to the commissioner by the court having jurisdiction. The provisions of this section shall be extended to any nonresident owner or operator of a motor vehicle residing in any state, the proper

47 authorities of which agree with the commissioner to revoke, until 48 personal appearance to answer the charge against him, his motor 49 vehicle registration certificate or operator's license, upon his failure to 50 appear for any scheduled court appearance. Any infractions or 51 violations, for which a report of failure to appear has been sent to the 52 commissioner under this subsection, that have not otherwise been 53 disposed of shall be dismissed by operation of law seven years after 54 such report was sent.

- (c) The commissioner may enter into reciprocal agreements with the proper authorities of other states, which agreements may include provisions for the suspension or revocation of licenses and registrations of residents and nonresidents who fail to appear for trial at the time and place assigned.
- (d) Any judgment under this section shall be opened upon the
 payment to the clerk of the Superior Court of a fee of forty dollars.
 Such filing fee may be waived by the court.
- (e) The provisions of subsections (b) and (d) of this section shall apply to any person who fails to pay a fee imposed under subsection (e) of section 17a-696, subsection (i) of section 46b-38c or subsection (c) of section 53a-29, as amended by this act, or section 53a-39c, 54-56e, 54-56g or 54-56i, or any cost imposed under section 21a-283.
- [(e)] (f) In addition, the provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall apply to sections 29-322, 29-349 and 29-351.
- Sec. 4. Subsection (j) of section 14-296aa of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
 - (j) The state shall remit to a municipality twenty-five per cent of the amount received <u>for a violation of this section</u> with respect to each summons issued by such municipality. [for a violation of this section.] Each clerk of the Superior Court or the Chief Court Administrator, or any other official of the Superior Court designated by the Chief Court

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Administrator, shall, on or before the thirtieth day of January, April,

- 79 July and October in each year, certify to the Comptroller the amount
- 80 due for the previous quarter under this subsection to each
- 81 municipality served by the office of the clerk or official.
- Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 47a-23a of the general statutes is
- 83 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 84 *October* 1, 2012):
- 85 (a) If, at the expiration of the three days prescribed in section 47a-23, 86 the lessee or occupant neglects or refuses to quit possession or 87 occupancy of the premises, any commissioner of the Superior Court may issue a writ, summons and complaint which shall be in the form 88 89 and nature of an ordinary writ, summons and complaint in a civil 90 process, but which shall set forth facts justifying a judgment for 91 immediate possession or occupancy of the premises and make a claim 92 for possession or occupancy of the premises. If the claim is for the 93 possession or occupancy of nonresidential property, the writ, 94 summons and complaint [may] shall also make a claim for the 95 forfeiture to the plaintiff of the possessions and personal effects of the 96 defendant in accordance with section 47a-42a. If the plaintiff has 97 properly issued a notice to quit possession to an occupant by alias, if 98 permitted to do so by section 47a-23, and has no further identifying 99 information at the time of service of the writ, summons and complaint, 100 such writ, summons and complaint may also name and serve such 101 occupant or occupants as defendants. In any case in which service is to 102 be made upon an occupant or occupants identified by alias, the 103 complaint shall contain an allegation that the plaintiff does not know 104 the name of such occupant or occupants. Such complaint shall be 105 returnable to the Superior Court. Such complaint may be made 106 returnable six days, inclusive, after service upon the defendant and 107 shall be returned to court at least three days before the return day. 108 Such complaint may be served on any day of the week. 109 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 52-185 no recognizance shall 110 be required of a complainant appearing pro se.

Sec. 6. Subsection (c) of section 47a-26h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2012):

(c) Any occupant not named in the action who claims not to be subject to the summary process action because his occupancy commenced prior to service of the notice to quit or his occupancy commenced or continued with the consent of the plaintiff or under a right to occupy equal or superior to the rights of the plaintiff may, at any time before or after judgment but prior to issuance of an execution, file under oath a claim of exemption from such action. The Office of the Chief Court Administrator shall prescribe a form upon which such claim can be made, which form shall be in clear and simple language and in readable format. Upon the filing of such a claim, the clerk shall schedule a hearing, which shall be held not more than seven days after the date of filing. Execution shall not issue until the court renders its decision on the claim. The claimant shall have the burden of proof to show that his occupancy commenced prior to service of the notice to quit or that his occupancy was commenced or continued with the consent of the plaintiff or under a right to occupy equal or superior to the rights of the plaintiff. The burden of proof shall be upon the plaintiff to show that he did not know of the presence of the occupant or the name of the occupant, as the case may be. For purposes of this chapter, if rent or use and occupancy payments have been made to the plaintiff or his agent by the occupant, the plaintiff shall be deemed to have known of the presence and the name of the occupant. The court shall determine whether the claimant is bound by the action and, if the court finds that the claimant is not bound, it shall declare the claimant to be exempt from the action. In order to obtain a judgment for possession of the premises as part of such action the plaintiff shall serve the previously exempt occupant with a notice to quit possession pursuant to section 47a-23. If the occupant is still in possession after the date to quit possession has passed, the plaintiff shall serve the occupant with an amended writ, summons and complaint adding the occupant as a party defendant to such action of summary process. Any occupant not exempt from the action shall have the same rights and

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146 obligations as a named defendant and shall be bound by any 147 judgment. Notwithstanding the provisions of [section 47a-42] sections 148 47a-42 and 47a-42a, no summary process execution shall be issued or enforced unless valid execution has been issued against all occupants 149 150 of the premises, except that such execution may be issued and 151 enforced, without issuing or enforcing execution against other 152 occupants, upon a person against whom a judgment has been entered 153 based upon that person's having conducted himself in a manner which 154 constitutes a serious nuisance by using the premises or any area within 155 fifteen hundred feet of any housing authority property in which such 156 person resides for the illegal sale of drugs, as defined in subparagraph 157 (D) of section 47a-15.

- Sec. 7. Section 51-53 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- 160 (a) Whenever any court, including a court of probate, or the judge of 161 any such court acting in any matter coming before him as a judge, 162 makes or renders any decision, order, decree, denial or ruling, unless it 163 is made or rendered in the presence of counsel in the matter, the clerk 164 of the court shall immediately notify counsel and any appearing party, 165 in writing by mail or electronic delivery, of the decision, order, decree, 166 denial or ruling. Electronic delivery may be by computer or facsimile 167 transmission or by employing other technology in accordance with 168 procedures and technical standards established by the Office of the 169 Chief Court Administrator or the Probate Court Administrator, as the 170 case may be. Notice delivered electronically shall have the same 171 validity and status as notice delivered by mail.
- 172 (b) The time limited by law for commencing appellate proceedings 173 on the decision, order, decree, denial or ruling shall date from the time 174 when such notice is issued by the clerk.
- Sec. 8. Section 51-94a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- 177 No attorney appointed by the court pursuant to rules of the

Superior Court to inventory the files of an inactive, suspended, disbarred or resigned attorney and to take necessary action to protect the interests of the inactive, suspended, disbarred or resigned attorney's clients shall be liable for damage or injury, not wanton, reckless or malicious, caused in the discharge of the appointed attorney's duties in connection with such inventory and action. Any

- attorney so appointed by the court shall be deemed to be a state officer
- 185 or employee for purposes of indemnification and defense under
- 186 <u>section 5-141d.</u>
- Sec. 9. Section 51-164n of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
- 189 *October* 1, 2012):

violation.

- (a) There shall be a Centralized Infractions Bureau of the Superior Court to handle payments or pleas of not guilty with respect to the commission of infractions and violations under subsection (b) of this section. Except as provided in section 51-1640, any person who is alleged to have committed an infraction or a violation under subsection (b) of this section may plead not guilty or pay the established fine and any additional fee or cost for the infraction or such
- 198 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any 199 person who is alleged to have committed (1) a violation under the 200 provisions of section 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 4b-13, 7-13, 7-14, 7-35, 7-41, 7-83, 7-201 283, 7-325, 7-393, 8-25, 8-27, 9-63, 9-322, 9-350, 10-193, 10-197, 10-198, 202 10-230, 10-251, 10-254, 12-52, 12-170aa, 12-292 or 12-326g, subdivision 203 (4) of section 12-408, subdivision (3), (5) or (6) of section 12-411, section 204 12-435c, 12-476a, 12-476b, 12-487, 13a-71, 13a-107, 13a-113, 13a-114, 13a-205 115, 13a-117b, 13a-123, 13a-124, 13a-139, 13a-140, 13a-143b, 13a-247 or 206 13a-253, subsection (f) of section 13b-42, section 13b-90, 13b-221, 13b-207 292, 13b-336, 13b-337, 13b-338, 13b-410a, 13b-410b or 13b-410c, 208 subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 13b-412, section 13b-414, subsection 209 (d) of section 14-12, section 14-20a or 14-27a, subsection (e) of section 210 14-34a, subsection (d) of section 14-35, section 14-43, 14-49, 14-50a or

211 14-58, subsection (b) of section 14-66, section 14-66a, 14-66b or 14-67a, 212 subsection (g) of section 14-80, subsection (f) of section 14-80h, section 213 14-97a, 14-100b, 14-103a, 14-106a, 14-106c, 14-146, 14-152, 14-153 or 14-163b, a first violation as specified in subsection (f) of section 14-164i, 214 215 section 14-219 as specified in subsection (e) of said section, subdivision 216 (1) of section 14-223a, section 14-240, 14-249, 14-250 or 14-253a, 217 subsection (a) of section 14-261a, section 14-262, 14-264, 14-267a, 14-218 269, 14-270, 14-275a, 14-278 or 14-279, subsection (e) of section 14-283, 219 section 14-291, 14-293b, 14-296aa, as amended by this act, 14-319, 14-220 320, 14-321, 14-325a, 14-326, 14-330 or 14-332a, subdivision (1), (2) or (3) 221 of section 14-386a, section 15-33, subsection (a) of section 15-115, 222 section 16-256, 16-256e, 16a-15 or 16a-22, subsection (a) or (b) of section 223 16a-22h, section 17a-24, 17a-145, 17a-149, 17a-152, 17a-465, 17a-642, 224 17b-124, 17b-131, 17b-137 or 17b-734, subsection (b) of section 17b-736, 225 section 19a-30, 19a-33, 19a-39 or 19a-87, subsection (b) of section 19a-226 87a, section 19a-91, 19a-105, 19a-107, 19a-215, 19a-219, 19a-222, 19a-224, 227 19a-286, 19a-287, 19a-297, 19a-301, 19a-309, 19a-335, 19a-336, 19a-338, 228 19a-339, 19a-340, 19a-425, 19a-502, 20-7a, 20-14, 20-158, 20-231, 20-257, 229 20-265 or 20-324e, section 20-341*l*, 20-597, 20-608, 20-610, 21-30, 21-38, 230 21-39, 21-43, 21-47, 21-48, 21-63, 21-76a, 21a-21, 21a-25, 21a-26 or 21a-231 30, subsection (a) of section 21a-37, section 21a-46, 21a-61, 21a-63 or 232 21a-77, subsection (b) of section 21a-79, section 21a-85, 21a-154 or 21a-233 159, subsection (a) of section 21a-279a, section 22-13, 22-14, 22-15, 22-234 16, 22-29, 22-34, 22-35, 22-36, 22-38, 22-39, 22-39a, 22-39b, 22-39c, 22-235 39d, 22-39e, 22-49, 22-54, 22-61, 22-89, 22-90, 22-98, 22-99, 22-100, 22-236 111o, 22-279, 22-280a, 22-318a, 22-320h, 22-324a, 22-326 or 22-342, 237 subsection (b), (e) or (f) of section 22-344, section 22-359, 22-366, 22-391, 238 22-413, 22-414, 22-415, 22a-66a or 22a-246, subsection (a) of section 22a-239 250, subsection (e) of section 22a-256h, section 22a-381d, 22a-449, 22a-240 461, 23-37, 23-38, 23-46 or 23-61b, subsection (a) or (b) of section 23-65, 241 section 25-37, 25-40, 26-19, 26-21, 26-31, 26-40, 26-40a, 26-49, 26-54, 26-59, 26-61, 26-64, 26-79, 26-89, 26-97, 26-107, 26-117, 26-128, 26-131, 26-242 243 132, 26-138, 26-141, 26-207, 26-215, 26-224a, 26-227, 26-230, 26-294, 28-244 13, 29-6a, 29-109, 29-143o, 29-143z or 29-156a, subsection (b), (d), (e) or 245 (g) of section 29-161q, section 29-161y, 29-161z, 29-198, 29-210, 29-243,

246 29-277, subsection (c) of section 29-291c, section 29-316, 29-318, 29-381, 247 30-48a, 30-86a, 31-3, 31-10, 31-11, 31-12, 31-13, 31-14, 31-15, 31-16, 31-18, 248 31-23, 31-24, 31-25, 31-28, 31-32, 31-36, 31-38, 31-38a, 31-40, 31-44, 31-47, 249 31-48, 31-51, 31-51k, 31-52, 31-52a or 31-54, subsection (a) or (c) of 250 section 31-69, section 31-70, 31-74, 31-75, 31-76, 31-76a, 31-89b or 31-251 134, subsection (i) of section 31-273, section 31-288, 36a-787, 42-230, 252 45a-450, 45a-634 or 45a-658, subdivision (13) or (14) of section 46a-54, 253 section 46a-59, 46b-22, 46b-24, 46b-34, 47-34a, 47-47, 49-8a, 49-16 or 53-254 133, or section 53-212a, 53-249a, 53-252, 53-264, 53-302a, 53-303e, 53-255 311a, 53-321, 53-322, 53-323, 53-331, 53-344 or 53-450, or (2) a violation 256 under the provisions of chapter 268, or (3) a violation of any regulation 257 adopted in accordance with the provisions of section 12-484, 12-487 or 258 13b-410, or (4) a violation of any ordinance, regulation or bylaw of any 259 town, city or borough, except violations of building codes and the 260 health code, for which the penalty exceeds ninety dollars but does not 261 exceed two hundred fifty dollars, unless such town, city or borough 262 has established a payment and hearing procedure for such violation 263 pursuant to section 7-152c, shall follow the procedures set forth in this 264 section.

(c) If any person who is alleged to have committed an infraction or any violation specified in subsection (b) of this section elects to pay the fine and any additional fees or costs established for such infraction or violation, he shall send payment, by mail or otherwise, to the Centralized Infractions Bureau, made payable to the "clerk of the Superior Court". Such payment shall be considered a plea of nolo contendere and shall be inadmissible in any proceeding, civil or criminal, to establish the conduct of the person, provided the provisions of this section and section 51-164m shall not affect the application of any administrative sanctions by either Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection authorized under title 26 or the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles authorized under title 14, except that no points shall be assessed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles against the operator's license of such person for such infraction or violation. The Judicial Department shall provide notice of the provisions of this subsection to law enforcement

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agencies and direct each law enforcement agency issuing a complaint to provide such notice to any person who is alleged to have committed a motor vehicle infraction or violation at the time a complaint alleging such conduct is issued to such person.

- (d) If the person elects to plead not guilty, he shall send the plea of not guilty to the Centralized Infractions Bureau. The bureau shall send such plea and request for trial to the clerk of the geographical area where the trial is to be conducted. Such clerk shall advise such person of a date certain for a hearing.
- (e) A summons for the commission of an infraction or of a violation specified in subsection (b) of this section shall not be deemed to be an arrest and the commission of an infraction or of any such violation shall not be deemed to be an offense within the meaning of section 53a-24.
 - (f) The provisions of this section shall apply to the alleged commission of an infraction or a violation specified in subsection (b) of this section by a minor but, in a case involving a minor, a parent or guardian shall sign any plea of nolo contendere or of not guilty on any summons form issued in connection with the matter.
 - (g) If a person elects to plead not guilty and send the plea of not guilty to the Centralized Infractions Bureau in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, such person may subsequently, at a proceeding at Superior Court, reach an agreement with the prosecutorial official as to the amount of the fine to be paid and elect to pay such fine without appearing before a judicial authority. The amount of the fine agreed upon shall not exceed the amount of the fine established for such infraction or violation. Any person who pays a fine pursuant to this subsection shall also pay any additional fees or costs established for such infraction or violation. Such person shall make such payment to the clerk of the Superior Court and such payment shall be considered a plea of nolo contendere and shall be inadmissible in any proceeding, civil or criminal, to establish the conduct of such person, provided the provisions of this section and

section 51-164m shall not affect the application of any administrative sanctions by either the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection authorized under title 26 or the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles authorized under title 14. A plea of nolo contendere pursuant to this subsection does not have to be submitted in writing. Nothing in this subsection shall affect the right of a person who is alleged to have committed an infraction or any violation specified in subsection (b) of this section to plead not guilty and request a trial before a judicial

[(g)] (h) In any trial for the alleged commission of an infraction, the practice, procedure, rules of evidence and burden of proof applicable in criminal proceedings shall apply, except that in any trial for the alleged commission of an infraction under subsection (d) of section 21a-267, the burden of proof shall be by the preponderance of the evidence. Any person found guilty at the trial or upon a plea shall be guilty of the commission of an infraction and shall be fined not less than thirty-five dollars or more than ninety dollars or, if the infraction is for a violation of any provision of title 14, not less than fifty dollars or more than ninety dollars.

[(h)] (i) In any trial for the alleged commission of a violation specified in subsection (b) of this section, the practice, procedure, rules of evidence and burden of proof applicable in criminal proceedings shall apply, except that in any trial for the alleged commission of a violation under subsection (a) of section 21a-279a, the burden of proof shall be by the preponderance of the evidence. Any person found guilty at the trial or upon a plea shall be guilty of the commission of a violation and shall be fined not more than the statutory amount applicable to such violation.

Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 51-181c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

(a) The Chief Court Administrator shall designate one court location in which a community court [pilot program] is to be established where

authority.

347 there shall be a docket separate from other criminal matters for the

- 348 hearing of (1) criminal matters which are misdemeanor cases, (2)
- misdemeanor cases transferred by the housing session of the Superior
- 350 Court, and (3) violations of municipal ordinances referred by
- 351 municipalities, in accordance with policies and procedures established
- 352 by the Chief Court Administrator.
- Sec. 11. Subsection (j) of section 4b-55 of the general statutes is
- 354 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 355 *October 1, 2012*):
- 356 (j) "Community court project" means (1) any project to renovate and
- improve a facility designated for the community court [pilot program]
- established pursuant to section 51-181c, as amended by this act, and (2)
- 359 the renovation and improvement of other state facilities required for
- 360 the relocation of any state agency resulting from the placement of the
- 361 community court;
- Sec. 12. Section 51-197f of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 363 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):
- Upon final determination of any appeal by the Appellate Court,
- 365 there shall be no right to further review except the Supreme Court
- shall have the power to certify cases for its review upon petition by an
- aggrieved party or by the appellate panel which heard the matter. [and
- 368 upon the vote of three justices of the Supreme Court so to certify and]
- 369 A vote of three judges of the Supreme Court shall be required to certify
- a case for review by the Supreme Court, except that if fewer than six
- 371 judges of said court are available to consider a petition, a vote of two
- iudges of said court shall be required to certify a case, under such other
- 373 rules as the justices of [the Supreme Court] said court shall establish.
- 374 The procedure on appeal from the Appellate Court to the Supreme
- 375 Court shall, except as otherwise provided, be in accordance with the
- 376 procedure provided by rule or law for the appeal of judgments
- 377 rendered by the Superior Court, unless modified by rule of the justices
- of the Supreme Court.

Sec. 13. Section 51-198 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

- (a) The Supreme Court shall consist of one Chief Justice and six associate judges, who shall, at the time of their appointment, also be appointed judges of the Superior Court.
- 384 (b) In addition thereto, each Chief Justice or associate judge of the 385 Supreme Court who elects to retain office but to retire from full-time 386 active service shall continue to be a member of the Supreme Court 387 during the remainder of his or her term of office and during the term 388 of any reappointment under section 51-50i, until he or she attains the 389 age of seventy years. He or she shall be entitled to participate in the 390 meetings of the judges of the Supreme Court and vote as a member 391 thereof. [, but only with respect to matters for which he or she has been 392 summoned pursuant to subsection (b) of section 51-207.]
 - (c) A judge of the Supreme Court who has attained the age of seventy years may continue to deliberate and participate in all matters concerning the disposition of any case which the judge heard prior to attaining said age, until such time as the decision in any such case is officially released. The judge may also participate in the deliberation of a motion for reconsideration in such case if such motion is filed within ten days of the official release of such decision.
- Sec. 14. Section 51-201 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):
- The [justices] <u>judges</u> of the Supreme Court shall appoint a chief clerk of the Supreme Court who shall not be a chief clerk of any judicial district. The chief clerk of the Supreme Court shall also be the chief clerk of the Appellate Court.
- Sec. 15. Section 51-207 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):
- (a) The Supreme Court shall sit in panels of five, six or seven judges,
 pursuant to rules adopted by said court.

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[(a)] (b) Each party in any case before the Supreme Court has a right to be heard by a panel consisting of at least five associate judges or the Chief Justice and four associate judges. Any senior judge of the Supreme Court, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 51-198, as amended by this act, may participate in any panel if the Chief Justice or at least one associate judge is disabled or disqualified or if the business of the court requires it.

- [(b) If any judge is disabled or if any judge is disqualified and the disqualification is not waived or if the business before the court requires it, the Chief Justice or, in the case of his or her disability or disqualification, the most senior associate judge qualified may summon the sixth or seventh member, or both, of the Supreme Court to constitute a panel.]
- 423 (c) If a panel cannot be constituted from the seven members of the 424 Supreme Court and any senior judges of the Supreme Court due to the 425 disability or disqualification of one or more members, or if the 426 business of the court requires it, the Chief Justice or, in the case of his 427 or her disability or disqualification, the most senior associate judge 428 qualified may summon one or more judges of the Superior Court, 429 [including senior judges of the Supreme Court] and one or more 430 judges and senior judges of the Appellate Court [,] to constitute a 431 panel, who shall attend and act as judges of the Supreme Court for the 432 time being.
- [(c)] (d) The Chief Justice or any judge shall not sit to review a decision he or she made below.
- Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 51-222a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 437 October 1, 2012):
 - (a) Annually, upon the request of the Jury Administrator, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall supply the Jury Administrator with the latest updated file of licensed motor vehicle operators for the state and with the latest updated file of holders of identity cards issued

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under section 1-1h. Upon the request of the Jury Administrator, the Services shall Commissioner of Revenue supply the Administrator with the most recent updated list of residents of this state who have a permanent place of abode in this state and who filed a return on personal income under chapter 229 in the last tax year, and the Labor Commissioner shall supply the Jury Administrator with the most recent updated list of residents of this state who are recipients of unemployment compensation under chapter 567. In addition, upon the request of the Jury Administrator, the registrars of voters of each town shall supply a list of all electors from their town, except that in lieu of such list from the registrars of voters, the Jury Administrator may obtain the list of all electors from a central repository, or if such list is not available, may contract for the creation and purchase of such list. The registrars of voters shall provide lists of electors to the contractor at the request of the Jury Administrator. Annually, upon the request of the Jury Administrator, the Commissioner of Public Health shall supply the Jury Administrator with the most recent updated list of deceased persons. The lists supplied to the Jury Administrator under this subsection shall be in the format prescribed by the Jury Administrator and shall include, at a minimum, the name, address and, if available, date of birth of each person on such list or the reason for the unavailability. The lists supplied by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, the Commissioner of Revenue Services, the Commissioner of Public Health and the Labor Commissioner to the Jury Administrator under this subsection shall also include the [federal] Social Security number of each person on such list or the reason for the unavailability. The lists of electors supplied to the Jury Administrator by registrars of voters or the Secretary of the State under this subsection shall not include [federal] Social Security numbers of persons on such lists.

- Sec. 17. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 51-243 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- (d) If, at any time, any juror shall, for any reason, become unable to further perform his <u>or her</u> duty, the court may excuse [him] <u>such juror</u>.

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If any juror is so excused or dies, the court may order that an alternate juror who is designated by lot to be drawn by the clerk, shall become a part of the regular panel and the trial shall then proceed as though the alternate juror had been a member of the regular panel from the time when the trial was begun. If a juror becomes a member of the regular panel after deliberations have begun, the jury shall be instructed by the court that deliberations by the jury shall begin anew.

- (e) A juror selected to serve as an alternate shall not be segregated from the regular panel except when the case is given to the regular panel for deliberation at which time [he] such alternate juror shall be dismissed from further service on the case or may remain in service under the direction of the court.
- Sec. 18. Section 52-72 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- (a) [Any] <u>Upon payment of taxable costs, any</u> court shall allow a proper amendment to civil process which [has been made returnable to the wrong return day or is for any other reason defective, upon payment of costs taxable upon sustaining a plea in abatement] <u>is for any reason defective</u>.
 - (b) Such amended process shall be served in the same manner as other civil process and shall have the same effect, from the date of the service, as if originally proper in form.
 - (c) If the court, on motion and after hearing, finds that the parties had notice of the pendency of the action and their rights have not been prejudiced or affected by reason of the defect, any attachment made by the original service and the rights under any lis pendens shall be preserved and continued from the date of service of the original process as though the original process had been in proper form. A certified copy of the finding shall be attached to and served with the amended process.
 - Sec. 19. Section 53a-29 of the general statutes is amended by adding

- subsection (h) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- 508 (NEW) (h) For the purposes of this section, a motor vehicle violation
- for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment of more than one year
- 510 may be imposed shall be deemed an unclassified felony.
- 511 Sec. 20. Subsection (a) of section 53a-217 of the general statutes is
- 512 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 513 *October* 1, 2012):
- 514 (a) A person is guilty of criminal possession of a firearm or
- 515 electronic defense weapon when such person possesses a firearm or
- 516 electronic defense weapon and (1) has been convicted of a felony, (2)
- 517 has been convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious
- 518 juvenile offense, as defined in section 46b-120, (3) knows that such
- 519 person is subject to (A) a restraining or protective order of a court of
- 520 this state that has been issued against such person, after notice and an
- 521 opportunity to be heard has been provided to such person, in a case
- 522 involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force
- against another person, or (B) a foreign order of protection, as defined
- 524 in section 46b-15a, that has been issued against such person in a case
- 525 involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force
- 526 against another person, (4) knows that such person is subject to a
- 527 firearms seizure order issued pursuant to subsection (d) of section 29-
- 528 38c after notice and an opportunity to be heard has been provided to
- 529 such person, or (5) is prohibited from shipping, transporting,
- possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(4). For the
- 531 purposes of this section, "convicted" means having a judgment of
- 532 conviction entered by a court of competent jurisdiction, and a motor
- 533 vehicle violation for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment of
- more than one year may be imposed shall be deemed an unclassified
- 535 <u>felony</u>.
- Sec. 21. Section 54-102g of the 2012 supplement to the general
- 537 statutes is amended by adding subsection (k) as follows (Effective
- 538 *October* 1, 2012):

(NEW) (k) For the purposes of this section, a motor vehicle violation for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment of more than one year may be imposed shall be deemed an unclassified felony.

- Sec. 22. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2012*) For the purposes of section 543 54-133 of the general statutes, a motor vehicle violation for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment of more than one year may be imposed shall be deemed a criminal offense.
- Sec. 23. Section 54-66a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- 548 Any bail bond posted in any criminal proceeding in this state shall 549 be automatically terminated and released whenever the defendant: (1) 550 Is granted accelerated rehabilitation pursuant to section 54-56e; (2) is 551 granted admission to the pretrial alcohol education program pursuant 552 to section 54-56g; (3) is granted admission to the pretrial family 553 violence education program pursuant to section 46b-38c, as amended 554 by this act; (4) is granted admission to the community service labor 555 program pursuant to section 53a-39c; (5) is granted admission to the 556 pretrial drug education program pursuant to section 54-56i; (6) has the 557 complaint or information filed against such defendant dismissed; (7) is 558 acquitted; (8) is sentenced by the court; (9) is granted admission to the 559 pretrial school violence prevention program pursuant to section 54-56j; 560 [or] (10) is charged with a violation of section 29-33 and prosecution 561 has been suspended pursuant to subsection (h) of section 29-33; or (11) 562 is granted admission to the supervised diversionary program for 563 persons with psychiatric disabilities pursuant to section 54-56l.
- Sec. 24. Subsection (c) of section 54-142a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
 - (c) (1) Whenever any charge in a criminal case has been nolled in the Superior Court, or in the Court of Common Pleas, if at least thirteen months have elapsed since such nolle, all police and court records and records of the state's or prosecuting attorney or the prosecuting grand

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juror pertaining to such charge shall be erased, except that in cases of nolles entered in the Superior Court, Court of Common Pleas, Circuit Court, municipal court or by a justice of the peace prior to April 1, 1972, such records shall be deemed erased by operation of law and the clerk or the person charged with the retention and control of such records shall not disclose to anyone their existence or any information pertaining to any charge so erased, provided nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the arrested person or any one of his heirs from filing a petition to the court or to the records center of the Judicial Department, as the case may be, to have such records erased, in which case such records shall be erased.

- (2) Whenever any charge in a criminal case has been continued at the request of the prosecuting attorney, and a period of thirteen months has elapsed since the granting of such continuance during which period there has been no prosecution or other disposition of the matter, the charge shall be [construed to have been nolled as of the date of termination of such thirteen-month period] nolled upon motion of the arrested person and such erasure may thereafter be effected or a petition filed therefor, as the case may be, as provided in this subsection for nolled cases.
- 591 Sec. 25. Section 54-143b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
 - The total amount of any forfeited bond for a motor vehicle violation, when such bond is composed in part of an additional fee established under subsection (c) or (d) of section 51-56a, any cost established under subsection (b) of section 54-143 or any cost established under section 54-143a, shall be deposited in the General Fund as one undifferentiated lump sum amount or deposited in the Special Transportation Fund as one undifferentiated lump sum amount as may be required by statute.
- Sec. 26. Section 54-203 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- 602 (a) There is established an Office of Victim Services within the

- 603 Judicial Department.
- (b) The Office of Victim Services shall have the following powers and duties:
- 606 (1) To direct each hospital, whether public or private, to display 607 prominently in its emergency room posters giving notice of the 608 availability of compensation and assistance to victims of crime or their 609 dependents pursuant to sections 54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as 610 amended by this act, and to direct every law enforcement agency of 611 the state to inform victims of crime or their dependents of their rights pursuant to sections 54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as amended by this 612 613 act;
- (2) To request from the office of the state's attorney, state police, local police departments or any law enforcement agency such investigation and data as will enable the Office of Victim Services to determine if in fact the applicant was a victim of a crime or attempted crime and the extent, if any, to which the victim or claimant was responsible for his own injury;
- (3) To request from the Department of Correction, other units of the Judicial Department and the Board of Pardons and Paroles such information as will enable the Office of Victim Services to determine if in fact a person who has requested notification pursuant to section 54-228 was a victim of a crime;
- (4) To direct medical examination of victims as a requirement for payment under sections 54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as amended by this act;
- (5) To take or cause to be taken affidavits or depositions within or without the state;
- 630 (6) To apply for, receive, allocate, disburse and account for grants of 631 funds made available by the United States, by the state, foundations, 632 corporations and other businesses, agencies or individuals to 633 implement a program for victim services which shall assist witnesses

and victims of crimes as the Office of Victim Services deems appropriate within the resources available and to coordinate services to victims by state and community-based agencies, with priority given to victims of violent crimes, by (A) assigning, in consultation with the Division of Criminal Justice, such victim advocates as are necessary to provide assistance; (B) administering victim service programs; and (C) awarding grants or purchase of service contracts [in accordance with the plan developed under subdivision (15) of this subsection] to private nonprofit organizations or local units of government for the direct delivery of services, except that the provision of training and technical assistance of victim service providers and the development and implementation of public education campaigns may be provided by private nonprofit or for-profit organizations or local units of government. Such grants and contracts shall be the predominant method by which the Office of Victim Services shall develop, implement and operate direct service programs and provide training and technical assistance to victim service providers;

- (7) To provide each person who applies for compensation pursuant to section 54-204, within ten days of the date of receipt of such application, with a written list of rights of victims of crime involving personal injury and the programs available in this state to assist such victims. The Office of Victim Services, the state or any agent, employee or officer thereof shall not be liable for the failure to supply such list or any alleged inadequacies of such list. Such list shall include, but not be limited to:
- (A) Subject to the provisions of sections 18-81e and 51-286e, the victim shall have the right to be informed concerning the status of his or her case and to be informed of the release from custody of the defendant;
- (B) Subject to the provisions of section 54-91c, the victim shall have the right to present a statement of his or her losses, injuries and wishes to the prosecutor and the court prior to the acceptance by the court of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere made pursuant to a plea agreement

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with the state wherein the defendant pleads to a lesser offense than the offense with which the defendant was originally charged;

- (C) Subject to the provisions of section 54-91c, prior to the imposition of sentence upon the defendant, the victim shall have the right to submit a statement to the prosecutor as to the extent of any injuries, financial losses and loss of earnings directly resulting from the crime;
- (D) Subject to the provisions of section 54-126a, the victim shall have the right to appear before a panel of the Board of Pardons and Paroles and make a statement as to whether the defendant should be released on parole and any terms or conditions to be imposed upon any such release;
- (E) Subject to the provisions of section 54-36a, the victim shall have the right to have any property the victim owns which was seized by police in connection with an arrest to be returned;
 - (F) Subject to the provisions of sections 54-56e and 54-142c, the victim shall have the right to be notified of the application by the defendant for the pretrial program for accelerated rehabilitation and to obtain from the court information as to whether the criminal prosecution in the case has been dismissed;
 - (G) Subject to the provisions of section 54-85b, the victim cannot be fired, harassed or otherwise retaliated against by an employer for appearing under a subpoena as a witness in any criminal prosecution;
 - (H) Subject to the provisions of section 54-86g, the parent or legal guardian of a child twelve years of age or younger who is a victim of child abuse or sexual assault may request special procedural considerations to be taken during the testimony of the child;
 - (I) Subject to the provisions of section 46b-15, the victim of assault by a spouse or former spouse, family or household member has the right to request the arrest of the offender, request a protective order and apply for a restraining order;

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(J) Subject to the provisions of sections 52-146k, 54-86e and 54-86f, the victim of sexual assault or domestic violence can expect certain records to remain confidential;

- (8) Within available appropriations, to establish a victim's assistance center which shall provide a victims' rights information clearinghouse which shall be a central repository of information regarding rights of victims of crime and services available to such victims and shall collect and disseminate such information to assist victims:
- (9) To provide [, not later than January 1, 1994,] a victims' notification clearinghouse which shall be a central repository for requests for notification filed pursuant to sections 54-228 and 54-229, and to notify [, on and after January 1, 1994,] persons who have filed such a request whenever an inmate has applied for release from a correctional institution or reduction of sentence or review of sentence pursuant to section 54-227 or whenever an inmate is scheduled to be released from a correctional institution and [, on and after January 1, 1994,] to provide victims of family violence crimes, upon request, information concerning any modification or termination of criminal orders of protection;
- (10) To provide a telephone [hotline] <u>helpline</u> that shall provide information on referrals for various services for victims of crime and their families;
- (11) To provide staff services to a state advisory council. The council shall consist of not more than fifteen members to be appointed by the Chief Justice and shall include the Chief Victim Compensation Commissioner and members who represent victim populations, including but not limited to, homicide survivors, family violence victims, sexual assault victims, victims of drunk drivers, and assault and robbery victims, and members who represent the judicial branch and executive branch agencies involved with victims of crime. The members shall serve for terms of four years. Any vacancy in the membership shall be filled by the appointing authority for the balance of the unexpired term. The members shall receive no compensation for

731 their services. The council shall meet at least six times a year. The

- 732 council shall recommend to the Office of Victim Services program,
- 733 legislative or other matters which would improve services to victims of
- 734 crime and develop and coordinate needs assessments for both court-
- based and community-based victim services. The Chief Justice shall
- 736 appoint two members to serve as cochairmen. Not later than December
- fifteenth of each year, the council shall report the results of its findings
- 738 and activities to the Chief Court Administrator;
- 739 (12) To utilize such voluntary and uncompensated services of
- 740 private individuals, agencies and organizations as may from time to
- 741 time be offered and needed;
- 742 (13) To recommend policies and make recommendations to agencies
- and officers of the state and local subdivisions of government relative
- 744 to victims of crime;
- 745 (14) To provide support and assistance to state-wide victim services
- 746 coalitions and groups;
- 747 [(15) To develop, in coordination with the Department of Social
- 748 Services, the Department of Public Health, the Office of Policy and
- 749 Management, the Department of Children and Families and the
- 750 Division of Criminal Justice, a comprehensive plan to more effectively
- administer crime victims' compensation and coordinate the delivery of
- services to crime victims, including the funding of such services. Such
- 753 plan shall be submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly not
- 754 later than January 1, 1994;]
- 755 [(16)] (15) Within available appropriations to establish a crime
- victims' information clearinghouse which shall be a central repository
- 757 for information collected pursuant to subdivision (9) of this subsection
- 758 and information made available through the criminal justice
- 759 information system, to provide a toll-free telephone number for access
- 760 to such information and to develop a plan, in consultation with all
- 761 agencies required to provide notification to victims, outlining any
- 762 needed statutory changes, resources and working agreements

necessary to make the Office of Victim Services the lead agency for notification of victims, which plan shall be submitted to the General Assembly not later than February 15, 2000;

- [(17)] (16) To provide a training program for judges, prosecutors, police, probation and parole personnel, bail commissioners, officers from the Department of Correction and judicial marshals to inform them of victims' rights and available services;
- 770 [(18)] (17) To establish a sexual assault forensic examiners program 771 that will train and make available sexual assault forensic examiners to 772 adolescent and adult victims of sexual assault who are patients at 773 participating acute care hospitals. In order to establish and implement 774 such program, the Office of Victim Services may apply for, receive, 775 allocate, disburse and account for grants of funds made available by 776 the United States, the state, foundations, corporations and other 777 businesses, agencies or individuals; and
 - [(19)] (18) To submit to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to victim services, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, on or before January 15, 2000, and biennially thereafter a report of its activities under sections 54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as amended by this act, including, but not limited to, implementation of training activities and mandates. Such report shall include the types of training provided, entities providing training and recipients of training.
- Sec. 27. Section 54-209 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
 - (a) The Office of Victim Services or, on review, a victim compensation commissioner may order the payment of compensation in accordance with the provisions of sections 54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as amended by this act, for personal injury or death which resulted from: (1) An attempt to prevent the commission of crime or to apprehend a suspected criminal or in aiding or attempting to aid a police officer so to do, (2) the commission or attempt to commit by

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another of any crime as provided in section 53a-24, (3) [the operation of a motor vehicle by another person who was subsequently convicted with respect to such operation for a violation of subsection (a) of section 14-224 or of section 14-227a, 53a-56b or 53a-60d, or (4)] any crime involving international terrorism as defined in Section 2331 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

- [(b) In the absence of conviction, as provided in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, the Office of Victim Services or, on review, a victim compensation commissioner may order payment of compensation under this section if, upon consideration of all circumstances determined to be relevant, the Office of Victim Services or a victim compensation commissioner, as the case may be, reasonably concludes that another person has operated a motor vehicle in violation of subsection (a) of section 14-224 or of section 14-227a, 53a-56b or 53a-60d.]
- (b) The Office of Victim Services or, on review, a victim compensation commissioner may also order the payment of compensation in accordance with the provisions of sections 54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as amended by this act, for personal injury or death that resulted from the operation of a motor vehicle by another person who was subsequently convicted with respect to such operation for a violation of subsection (a) of section 14-224 or section 14-227a, 53a-56b or 53a-60d. In the absence of a conviction, the Office of Victim Services or, on review, a victim compensation commissioner may order payment of compensation under this section if, upon consideration of all circumstances determined to be relevant, the office or commissioner, as the case may be, reasonably concludes that another person has operated a motor vehicle in violation of subsection (a) of section 14-224 or section 14-227a, 53a-56b or 53a-60d.
 - (c) Except as provided [in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) and] subsection (b) of this section, no act involving the operation of a motor vehicle which results in injury shall constitute a crime for the purposes of sections 54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as amended by this act, unless

the injuries were intentionally inflicted through the use of the vehicle.

829 (d) In instances where a violation of section 53-21, 53a-70, 53a-70a, 830 53a-70b, 53a-70c, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a has been alleged, 831 the Office of Victim Services or, on review, a victim compensation 832 commissioner may order compensation be paid if (1) the personal 833 injury has been disclosed to: (A) A physician or surgeon licensed 834 under chapter 370; (B) a resident physician or intern in any hospital in 835 this state, whether or not licensed; (C) a physician assistant licensed 836 under chapter 370; (D) an advanced practice registered nurse, 837 registered nurse or practical nurse licensed under chapter 378; (E) a psychologist licensed under chapter 383; (F) a police officer; (G) a 838 839 mental health professional; (H) an emergency medical services 840 provider licensed or certified under chapter 368d; (I) an alcohol and 841 drug counselor licensed or certified under chapter 376b; (J) a marital and family therapist licensed under chapter 383a; (K) a sexual assault 842 843 counselor or battered women's counselor as defined in section 52-146k; 844 (L) a professional counselor licensed under chapter 383c; (M) a clinical 845 social worker licensed under chapter 383b; or (N) an employee of the Department of Children and Families; and (2) the office or 846 847 commissioner, as the case may be, reasonably concludes that a 848 violation of any of said sections has occurred.

- [(d)] (e) Evidence of an order for the payment of compensation by the Office of Victim Services or a victim compensation commissioner in accordance with the provisions of sections 54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall not be admissible in any civil proceeding to prove the liability of any person for such personal injury or death or in any criminal proceeding to prove the guilt or innocence of any person for any crime.
- Sec. 28. Subsection (a) of section 54-210 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 858 October 1, 2012):
- 859 (a) The Office of Victim Services or a victim compensation 860 commissioner may order the payment of compensation under sections

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54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as amended by this act, for: (1) Expenses actually and reasonably incurred as a result of the personal injury or death of the victim, provided coverage for the cost of medical care and treatment of a crime victim who does not have medical insurance or who has exhausted coverage under applicable health insurance policies or Medicaid shall be ordered; (2) loss of earning power as a result of total or partial incapacity of such victim; (3) pecuniary loss to the spouse or dependents of the deceased victim, provided the family qualifies for compensation as a result of murder or manslaughter of the victim; (4) pecuniary loss to the relatives or dependents of a deceased victim for attendance at court proceedings with respect to the criminal case of the person or persons charged with committing the crime that resulted in the death of the victim; and (5) any other loss, except as set forth in section 54-211, as amended by this act, resulting from the personal injury or death of the victim which the Office of Victim Services or a victim compensation commissioner, as the case may be, determines to be reasonable. [At the discretion of said office or victim compensation commissioner, there shall be one hundred dollars deductible from the total amount determined by said office or victim compensation commissioner.]

Sec. 29. Subsections (d) and (e) of section 54-211 of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

(d) (1) No compensation [shall be awarded for the first hundred dollars of injury sustained and no such compensation] shall be in an amount in excess of fifteen thousand dollars except that [such] compensation to or for the benefit of the dependents of a homicide victim shall be in an amount not to exceed twenty-five thousand dollars. The claims of the dependents of a deceased victim, as provided in section 54-208, shall be considered derivative of the claim of such victim and the total compensation paid for all claims arising from the death of such victim shall not exceed a maximum of twenty-five thousand dollars.

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(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the Office of Victim Services or a victim compensation commissioner may, for good cause shown and upon a finding of compelling equitable circumstances, award compensation in an amount in excess of the maximum amounts set forth in said subdivision.

- (e) Orders for payment of compensation pursuant to sections 54-201 to 54-233, inclusive, as amended by this act, may be made only as to injuries or death resulting from incidents or offenses arising on and after January 1, 1979, except that orders for payment of compensation pursuant to [subdivision (3) of subsection (a)] subsection (b) of section 54-209, as amended by this act, may be made only as to injuries or death resulting from incidents or offenses arising on and after July 1, 1985.
- 908 Sec. 30. Subsection (b) of section 54-212 of the general statutes is 909 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 910 October 1, 2012):
 - (b) If the applicant brings an action against the person or persons responsible for such injury or death to recover damages arising out of the crime for which an award has been granted, or, if the applicant recovers money from any other source or sources including, but not limited to, payments from state or municipal agencies, insurance benefits or workers' compensation awards as a result of the incident or offense giving rise to the application, the Office of Victim Services shall have a lien on the applicant's recovery for the amount to which the office is entitled to reimbursement. [The] If an action is brought by the applicant against the person or persons responsible for the injury or death, the applicant shall notify the Office of Victim Services of the filing of such complaint within thirty days of the filing of the complaint in court. Whenever an applicant recovers damages, whether by judgment, settlement or compromise settlement before or after judgment, from the person or persons responsible for such injury, and whenever an applicant recovers money from any other source or

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927 sources including, but not limited to, payments from state or
928 municipal agencies, insurance benefits or workers' compensation
929 awards as a result of the incident or offense giving rise to the
930 application, the Office of Victim Services is entitled to reimbursement
931 from the applicant for two-thirds of the amount paid pursuant to any
932 order for the payment of compensation for personal injury or death or
933 for the provision of restitution services.

- Sec. 31. Subsection (b) of section 19a-112f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- (b) The committee shall advise the Office of Victim Services on the establishment and implementation of the sexual assault forensic examiners program pursuant to subdivision [(18)] (17) of subsection (b) of section 54-203, as amended by this act, and section 19a-112g. The committee shall make specific recommendations concerning: (1) The recruitment of registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses and physicians to participate in such program; (2) the development of a specialized training course concerning such program for registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses and physicians who participate in the program; (3) the development of agreements between the Judicial Branch, the Department of Public Health and acute care hospitals relating to the scope of services offered under the program and hospital standards governing the provision of such services; (4) individual case tracking mechanisms; (5) utilization of medically accepted best practices; and (6) the development of quality assurance measures.
 - Sec. 32. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) Two persons who are parties to a valid civil union performed in a foreign jurisdiction may bring an action for dissolution, annulment or legal separation of the civil union in this state, and the Superior Court may enter an order of dissolution, annulment or legal separation of the civil union.
- 958 Sec. 33. Section 46b-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2012*):

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Matters within the jurisdiction of the Superior Court deemed to be family relations matters shall be matters affecting or involving: (1) Dissolution of marriage, contested and uncontested, except dissolution upon conviction of crime as provided in section 46b-47; (2) legal separation; (3) annulment of marriage; (4) alimony, support, custody and change of name incident to dissolution of marriage, legal separation and annulment; (5) actions brought under section 46b-15; (6) complaints for change of name; (7) civil support obligations; (8) habeas corpus and other proceedings to determine the custody and visitation of children; (9) habeas corpus brought by or on behalf of any mentally ill person except a person charged with a criminal offense; (10) appointment of a commission to inquire whether a person is wrongfully confined as provided by section 17a-523; (11) juvenile matters as provided in section 46b-121; (12) all rights and remedies provided for in chapter 815j; (13) the establishing of paternity; (14) appeals from probate concerning: (A) Adoption or termination of parental rights; (B) appointment and removal of guardians; (C) custody of a minor child; (D) appointment and removal of conservators; (E) orders for custody of any child; and (F) orders of commitment of persons to public and private institutions and to other appropriate facilities as provided by statute; (15) actions related to prenuptial and separation agreements and to matrimonial and civil union decrees of a foreign jurisdiction; (16) custody proceeding brought under the provisions of chapter 815p; and (17) all such other matters within the jurisdiction of the Superior Court concerning children or family relations as may be determined by the judges of said court.

- 987 Sec. 34. Section 54-108e of the 2012 supplement to the general 988 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof 989 (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
 - (a) Probation officers shall provide intensive pretrial supervision services, in accordance with guidelines developed by the Court Support Services Division, whenever ordered to do so by the court.

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(b) Probation officers shall complete alternative sentencing plans, in accordance with guidelines developed by the Court Support Services Division, for persons who have entered into a stated plea agreement that includes a term of imprisonment of two years or less, whenever ordered to do so by the court.

- (c) Probation officers may evaluate persons sentenced to a term of imprisonment of two years or less who have been confined under such sentence for at least ninety days and have complied with institutional rules and necessary treatment programs of the Department of Correction, and may develop a community release plan for such persons in accordance with guidelines developed by the Court Support Services Division. If a probation officer develops a community release plan, the probation officer shall apply for a sentence modification hearing under section 53a-39.
- (d) Information contained in an alternative sentencing plan or a community release plan shall be available only to: (1) Employees of the Judicial Branch who in the performance of their duties require access to the information contained in such plan; (2) employees and authorized agents of state or federal agencies involved in the design and delivery of treatment services to the person who is the subject of such plan; (3) employees of state or community-based agencies providing services directly to the person who is the subject of such plan; and (4) an attorney representing the person who is the subject of such plan in any proceeding in which such plan is relevant.
 - Sec. 35. Subsection (d) of section 46b-124 of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
 - (d) Records of cases of juvenile matters involving delinquency proceedings shall be available to (1) Judicial Branch employees who, in the performance of their duties, require access to such records, and (2) employees and authorized agents of state or federal agencies involved in (A) the delinquency proceedings, (B) the provision of services directly to the child, [or] (C) the design and delivery of treatment

programs pursuant to section 46b-121j, or (D) the delivery of court diversionary programs. Such employees and authorized agents include, but are not limited to, law enforcement officials, communitybased youth service bureau officials, state and federal prosecutorial officials, school officials in accordance with section 10-233h, court officials including officials of both the regular criminal docket and the docket for juvenile matters and officials of the Division of Criminal Justice, the Division of Public Defender Services, the Department of Children and Families, the Court Support Services Division and agencies under contract with the Judicial Branch. Such records shall also be available to (i) the attorney representing the child, including the Division of Public Defender Services, in any proceeding in which such records are relevant, (ii) the parents or guardian of the child, until such time as the subject of the record reaches the age of majority, (iii) the subject of the record, upon submission of satisfactory proof of the subject's identity, pursuant to guidelines prescribed by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator, provided the subject has reached the age of majority, (iv) law enforcement officials and prosecutorial officials conducting legitimate criminal investigations, (v) a state or federal agency providing services related to the collection of moneys due or funding to support the service needs of eligible juveniles, provided such disclosure shall be limited to that information necessary for the collection of and application for such moneys, and (vi) members and employees of the Board of Pardons and Paroles and employees of the Department of Correction who, in the performance of their duties, require access to such records, provided the subject of the record has been convicted of a crime in the regular criminal docket of the Superior Court and such records are relevant to the performance of a risk and needs assessment of such person while such person is incarcerated, the determination of such person's suitability for release from incarceration or for a pardon, or the determination of the supervision and treatment needs of such person while on parole or other supervised release. Records disclosed pursuant to this subsection shall not be further disclosed, except that information contained in such records may be disclosed in connection with bail or sentencing

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reports in open court during criminal proceedings involving the subject of such information.

Sec. 36. Subsection (a) of section 54-63b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 1065 October 1, 2012):

(a) The duties of the Court Support Services Division shall include: (1) To promptly interview, prior to arraignment, any person referred by the police pursuant to section 54-63c, as amended by this act, or by a judge. Such interview shall include, but not be limited to, information concerning the accused person, his or her family, community ties, prior criminal record and physical and mental condition. Any interview of a person held at a police station may be conducted by videoconference; (2) to seek independent verification of information obtained during the interview, if practicable; (3) to determine, as provided in section 54-63d, as amended by this act, or to make recommendations on request of any judge, concerning the terms and conditions of the release of arrested persons from custody pending final disposition of their cases; (4) to prepare a written report on all persons interviewed and, upon request and pursuant to the procedures established under subsection (f) of section 54-63d, as amended by this act, provide copies of the report to the court, defense counsel and state's attorney. Such report shall contain the information obtained during the interview and verification process, the person's prior criminal record, where possible, and the determination or recommendation of the commissioner pursuant to section 54-63d, as amended by this act, concerning the terms and conditions of the release of the persons so interviewed; (5) to give prior notice of each required court appearance to each person released following an interview by a bail commissioner or an intake, assessment and referral specialist; (6) to supervise pursuant to the direction of the court those persons released on nonfinancial conditions; (7) to inform the court and the state's attorney of any failure to comply with terms and conditions of release, including the arrest of persons released under its supervision; (8) to monitor, evaluate and provide information

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concerning terms and conditions of release and the release criteria established under subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, to prepare periodic reports on its activities, and to provide such other information as is needed to assist in the improvement of the pretrial release process; (9) to perform such other functions as the Chief Court Administrator may, from time to time, assign.

Sec. 37. Section 54-63c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

(a) Except in cases of arrest pursuant to a bench warrant of arrest in which the court or a judge thereof has indicated that bail should be denied or ordered that the officer or indifferent person making such arrest shall, without undue delay, bring such person before the clerk or assistant clerk of the superior court for the geographical area under section 54-2a, when any person is arrested for a bailable offense, the chief of police, or the chief's authorized designee, of the police department having custody of the arrested person shall promptly advise such person of the person's rights under section 54-1b, and of the person's right to be interviewed concerning the terms and conditions of release. Unless the arrested person waives or refuses such interview, the police officer shall promptly interview the arrested person to obtain information relevant to the terms and conditions of the person's release from custody, and shall seek independent verification of such information where necessary. At the request of the arrested person, the person's counsel may be present during the interview. No statement made by the arrested person in response to any question during the interview related to the terms and conditions of release shall be admissible as evidence against the arrested person in any proceeding arising from the incident for which the conditions of release were set. After such a waiver, refusal or interview, the police officer shall promptly order release of the arrested person upon the execution of a written promise to appear or the posting of such bond as may be set by the police officer, except that no condition of release set by the court or a judge thereof may be modified by such officer and no person shall be released upon the execution of a written promise to

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appear or the posting of a bond without surety if the person is charged with the commission of a family violence crime, as defined in section 46b-38a, and in the commission of such crime the person used or threatened the use of a firearm.

(b) If the person is charged with the commission of a family violence crime, as defined in section 46b-38a, and the police officer does not intend to impose nonfinancial conditions of release pursuant to this subsection, the police officer shall, pursuant to the procedure set forth in subsection (a) of this section, promptly order the release of such person upon the execution of a written promise to appear or the posting of such bond as may be set by the police officer. If such person is not so released, the police officer shall make reasonable efforts to immediately contact a bail commissioner or an intake, assessment and referral specialist to set the conditions of such person's release pursuant to section 54-63d, as amended by this act. If, after making such reasonable efforts, the police officer is unable to contact a bail commissioner or an intake, assessment and referral specialist or contacts a bail commissioner or an intake, assessment and referral specialist but such bail commissioner or intake, assessment and referral specialist is unavailable to promptly perform such bail commissioner's or intake, assessment and referral specialist's duties pursuant to section 54-63d, as amended by this act, the police officer shall, pursuant to the procedure set forth in subsection (a) of this section, order the release of such person upon the execution of a written promise to appear or the posting of such bond as may be set by the police officer and may impose nonfinancial conditions of release which may require that the arrested person do one or more of the following: (1) Avoid all contact with the alleged victim of the crime, (2) comply with specified restrictions on the person's travel, association or place of abode that are directly related to the protection of the alleged victim of the crime, or (3) not use or possess a dangerous weapon, intoxicant or controlled substance. Any such nonfinancial conditions of release shall be indicated on a form prescribed by the Judicial Branch and sworn to by the police officer. Such form shall articulate (A) the efforts that were made to contact a bail commissioner or an intake,

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assessment and referral specialist, (B) the specific factual basis relied upon by the police officer to impose the nonfinancial conditions of release, and (C) if the arrested person was non-English-speaking, that the services of a translation service or interpreter were used. A copy of that portion of the form that indicates the nonfinancial conditions of release shall immediately be provided to the arrested person. A copy of the entire form shall be provided to counsel for the arrested person at arraignment. Any nonfinancial conditions of release imposed pursuant to this subsection shall remain in effect until the arrested person is presented before the Superior Court pursuant to subsection (a) of section 54-1g. On such date, the court shall conduct a hearing pursuant to section 46b-38c at which the defendant is entitled to be heard with respect to the issuance of a protective order.

(c) When cash bail in excess of ten thousand dollars is received for a detained person accused of a felony, where the underlying facts and circumstances of the felony involve the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, the police officer shall prepare a report that contains (1) the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the accused person, (2) the name, address and taxpayer identification number of each person offering the cash bail, other than a person licensed as a professional bondsman under chapter 533 or a surety bail bond agent under chapter 700f, (3) the amount of cash received, and (4) the date the cash was received. Not later than fifteen days after receipt of such cash bail, the police officer shall file the report with the Department of Revenue Services and mail a copy of the report to the state's attorney for the judicial district in which the alleged offense was committed and to each person offering the cash bail.

(d) No police officer shall set the terms and conditions of a person's release, set a bond for a person or release a person from custody under this section unless the police officer has first checked the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) computerized index of criminal justice information to determine if such person is listed in such index.

(e) If the arrested person has not posted bail, the police officer shall immediately notify a bail commissioner or an intake, assessment and referral specialist.

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- (f) The chief, acting chief, superintendent of police, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, any captain or lieutenant of any local police department or the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or any person lawfully exercising the powers of any such officer may take a written promise to appear or a bond with or without surety from an arrested person as provided in subsection (a) of this section, or as fixed by the court or any judge thereof, may administer such oaths as are necessary in the taking of promises or bonds and shall file any report required under subsection (c) of this section.
- Sec. 38. Section 54-63d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
- (a) Upon notification by a police officer pursuant to section 54-63c, as amended by this act, that an arrested person has not posted bail, a bail commissioner or an intake, assessment and referral specialist employed by the Judicial Branch shall promptly conduct an interview and investigation as specified in subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of section 54-63b, as amended by this act, and, based upon the criteria established pursuant to subsection (b) of section 54-63b, as amended by this act, and except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the bail commissioner or intake, assessment and referral specialist shall promptly order release of such person on the first of the following conditions of release found sufficient to provide reasonable assurance of the person's appearance in court: (1) Upon the execution of a written promise to appear without special conditions; (2) upon the execution of a written promise to appear with any of the nonfinancial conditions as specified in subsection (c) of this section; (3) upon the execution of a bond without surety in no greater amount than necessary; or (4) upon the execution of a bond with surety in no greater amount than necessary. If the person is unable to meet the conditions

of release ordered by the bail commissioner <u>or intake</u>, assessment and <u>referral specialist</u>, the bail commissioner <u>or intake</u>, assessment and <u>referral specialist</u> shall so inform the court in a report prepared pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 54-63b, as amended by this act.

- (b) No person shall be released upon the execution of a written promise to appear or the execution of a bond without surety if the person is charged with the commission of a family violence crime, as defined in section 46b-38a, and in the commission of such crime the person used or threatened the use of a firearm.
- (c) In addition to or in conjunction with any of the conditions enumerated in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section, the bail commissioner or intake, assessment and referral specialist may impose nonfinancial conditions of release, which may require that the arrested person do any of the following: (1) Remain under the supervision of a designated person or organization; (2) comply with specified restrictions on the person's travel, association or place of abode; (3) not engage in specified activities, including the use or possession of a dangerous weapon, an intoxicant or controlled substance; (4) avoid all contact with an alleged victim of the crime and with a potential witness who may testify concerning the offense; or (5) satisfy any other condition that is reasonably necessary to assure the appearance of the person in court. Any of the conditions imposed under subsection (a) of this section and this subsection by the bail commissioner or intake, assessment and referral specialist shall be effective until the appearance of such person in court.
- (d) The police department shall promptly comply with the order of release of the bail commissioner <u>or intake</u>, <u>assessment and referral specialist</u>, except that if the department objects to the order or any of its conditions, the department shall promptly so advise a state's attorney or assistant state's attorney, the bail commissioner <u>or intake</u>, <u>assessment and referral specialist</u> and the arrested person. The state's attorney or assistant state's attorney may authorize the police

department to delay release, until a hearing can be had before the court then sitting for the geographical area which includes the municipality in which the arrested person is being detained or, if the court is not then sitting, until the next sitting of said court. When cash bail in excess of ten thousand dollars is received for a detained person accused of a felony, where the underlying facts and circumstances of the felony involve the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force against another person, the police department shall prepare a report that contains (1) the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the accused person, (2) the name, address and taxpayer identification number of each person offering the cash bail, other than a person licensed as a professional bondsman under chapter 533 or a surety bail bond agent under chapter 700f, (3) the amount of cash received, and (4) the date the cash was received. Not later than fifteen days after receipt of such cash bail, the police department shall file the report with the Department of Revenue Services and mail a copy of the report to the state's attorney for the judicial district in which the alleged offense was committed and to each person offering the cash bail.

- (e) Except as provided in subsections (f) and (g) of this section, all information provided to the Court Support Services Division shall be for the sole purpose of determining and recommending the conditions of release, and shall otherwise be confidential and retained in the files of the Court Support Services Division, and not be subject to subpoena or other court process for use in any other proceeding or for any other purpose.
- (f) The Court Support Services Division shall establish written procedures for the release of information contained in reports and files of the Court Support Services Division, such procedures to be approved by the executive committee of the judges of the Superior Court. Such procedures shall allow access to (1) nonidentifying information by qualified persons for purposes of research related to the administration of criminal justice; (2) all information provided to the Court Support Services Division by probation officers for the

purposes of compiling presentence reports; and (3) all information provided to the Court Support Services Division concerning any person convicted of a crime and held in custody by the Department of Correction.

- 1301 (g) Any files and reports held by the Court Support Services
 1302 Division may be accessed and disclosed by employees of the division
 1303 in accordance with policies and procedures adopted by the Chief
 1304 Court Administrator.
- Sec. 39. Subsection (c) of section 54-64a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 1307 October 1, 2012):
 - (c) If the court determines that a nonfinancial condition of release should be imposed pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) or (b) of this section, the court shall order the pretrial release of the person subject to the least restrictive condition or combination of conditions that the court determines will reasonably assure the appearance of the arrested person in court and, with respect to the release of the person pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, that the safety of any other person will not be endangered, which conditions may include an order that the arrested person do one or more of the following: (1) Remain under the supervision of a designated person or organization; (2) comply with specified restrictions on such person's travel, association or place of abode; (3) not engage in specified activities, including the use or possession of a dangerous weapon, an intoxicant or a controlled substance; (4) provide sureties of the peace pursuant to section 54-56f under supervision of a designated bail commissioner or an intake, assessment and referral specialist; (5) avoid all contact with an alleged victim of the crime and with a potential witness who may testify concerning the offense; (6) maintain employment or, if unemployed, actively seek employment; (7) maintain or commence an educational program; (8) be subject to electronic monitoring; or (9) satisfy any other condition that is reasonably necessary to assure the appearance of the person in court

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and that the safety of any other person will not be endangered. The court shall state on the record its reasons for imposing any such nonfinancial condition.

- Sec. 40. Section 54-69 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):
 - (a) Whenever in any criminal prosecution the state's attorney for any judicial district or the assistant state's attorney is of the opinion that the bond without or with surety given by any accused person is excessive or insufficient in amount or security, or that the written promise of such person to appear is inadequate, or whenever any accused person alleges that the amount or security of the bond given by such accused person is excessive, such state's attorney or assistant state's attorney or the accused person may bring an application to the court in which the prosecution is pending or to any judge thereof, alleging such excess, insufficiency, or inadequacy, and, after notice as hereinafter provided and hearing, such judge shall in bailable offenses continue, modify or set conditions of release upon the first of the following conditions of release found sufficient to provide reasonable assurance of the appearance of the accused in court: (1) Upon such person's execution of a written promise to appear, (2) upon such person's execution of a bond without surety in no greater amount than necessary, (3) upon such person's execution of a bond with surety in no greater amount than necessary.
 - (b) No hearing upon any such application shall be had until a copy of such application, together with a notice of the time and place of hearing thereon, has been served upon the surety or sureties upon such bond, if any, and upon the appropriate bail commissioner or intake, assessment and referral specialist and, in the case of an application by an accused person, upon any such state's attorney, or, in the case of the application by any such state's attorney, upon the accused person.
 - (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, a hearing may be had on an application by any such state's attorney

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without a copy of such application and notice of the hearing being served upon the surety or sureties upon such bond, if any, the appropriate bail commissioner or intake, assessment and referral specialist and the accused person if the accused person is charged with the commission of a family violence crime, as defined in section 46b-38a, or a violation of section 53a-181c, 53a-181d, 53a-181e, 53a-223 or 53a-223b and is being presented at the next sitting of the Superior Court as required by section 54-1g.

Sec. 41. Section 54-69a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

A bail commissioner <u>or an intake</u>, assessment and referral specialist who has reason to believe that a person released under any of the provisions of sections 54-63a to 54-63g, inclusive, 54-64a, <u>as amended by this act</u>, 54-64b and 54-69, <u>as amended by this act</u>, intends not to appear in court as required by the conditions of release may apply to a judge of the court before which the person is required to appear, and verify by oath or otherwise the reason for his <u>or her</u> belief, and request that the person be brought before the court in order that the conditions of [his] <u>such person's</u> release be reviewed. Upon finding reasonable grounds that the released person intends not to appear, the judge shall forthwith issue a capias directed to a proper officer or indifferent person, commanding [him] <u>such proper officer or indifferent person</u> forthwith to arrest and bring the person to the court for a hearing to review the conditions of release. Such hearing shall be upon due notice as provided in section 54-69, as amended by this act.

Sec. 42. Section 54-71a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

No bail commissioner <u>or intake</u>, assessment and referral specialist, no employee of any police department, no state's attorney or assistant state's attorney and no municipality may be held liable in a civil action for damages on account of the release of any person under any of the provisions of sections 54-63a to 54-63g, inclusive, 54-64a, <u>as amended</u> by this act, 54-64b and 54-69, as amended by this act.

Sec. 43. Subsection (c) of section 46b-38c of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

- (c) Each such local family violence intervention unit shall: (1) Accept referrals of family violence cases from a judge or prosecutor, (2) prepare written or oral reports on each case for the court by the next court date to be presented at any time during the court session on that date, (3) provide or arrange for services to victims and offenders, (4) administer contracts to carry out such services, and (5) establish centralized reporting procedures. All information provided to a family relations counselor, family relations counselor trainee or family services supervisor employed by the Judicial Department in a local family violence intervention unit shall be used solely for the purposes of preparation of the report and the protective order forms for each case and recommendation of services and shall otherwise be confidential and retained in the files of such unit and not be subject to subpoena or other court process for use in any other proceeding or for any other purpose, except that a family relations counselor, family relations counselor trainee or family services supervisor employed by the Judicial Department:
- (A) Shall disclose to the court and the prosecuting authority for appropriate action information that the victim has indicated that the defendant holds a permit to carry a pistol or revolver or possesses one or more firearms;
- 1420 (B) Shall disclose to an employee of the Department of Children and 1421 Families information that indicates that a defendant poses a danger or 1422 threat to a child or a custodial parent of the child;
- 1423 (C) May disclose to another family relations counselor, family 1424 relations counselor trainee or family services supervisor information 1425 pursuant to guidelines adopted by the Chief Court Administrator;
- 1426 (D) May disclose to a bail commissioner <u>or an intake, assessment</u> 1427 <u>and referral specialist</u> employed by the Judicial Department

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information regarding a defendant who is on or is being considered for pretrial release;

- 1430 (E) May disclose to a law enforcement agency information that 1431 indicates that a defendant poses a danger or threat to another person;
- 1432 (F) May disclose, after disposition of a family violence case, to a 1433 probation officer or a juvenile probation officer, for purposes of 1434 determining service needs and supervision levels, information 1435 regarding a defendant who has been convicted and sentenced to a 1436 period of probation in the family violence case;
- (G) May disclose, after a conviction in a family violence case, to a probation officer for the purpose of preparing a presentence investigation report, any information regarding the defendant that has been provided to the family relations counselor, family relations counselor trainee or family services supervisor in the case or in any other case that resulted in the conviction of the defendant;
 - (H) May disclose to any organization under contract with the Judicial Department to provide family violence programs and services, for the purpose of determining program and service needs, information regarding any defendant who is a client of such organization, provided no information that personally identifies the victim may be disclosed to such organization; and
- (I) Shall disclose such information as may be necessary to fulfill such counselor's, trainee's or supervisor's duty as a mandated reporter under section 17a-101a to report suspected child abuse or neglect.
- Sec. 44. Section 1-24 of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 1454 October 1, 2012):
- The following officers may administer oaths: (1) The clerks of the Senate, the clerks of the House of Representatives and the chairpersons of committees of the General Assembly or of either branch thereof, during its session; (2) state officers, as defined in subsection (t) of

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section 9-1, judges and clerks of any court, family support magistrates, judge trial referees, justices of the peace, commissioners of the Superior Court, notaries public, town clerks and assistant town clerks, in all cases where an oath may be administered, except in a case where the law otherwise requires; (3) commissioners on insolvent estates, auditors, arbitrators and committees, to parties and witnesses, in all cases tried before them; (4) assessors and boards of assessment appeals, in cases coming before them; (5) commissioners appointed by governors of other states to take the acknowledgment of deeds, in the discharge of their official duty; (6) the moderator of a school district meeting, in such meeting, to the clerk of such district, as required by law; (7) the first selectman, in any matter before the board of selectmen; (8) the Chief Medical Examiner, Deputy Medical Examiner and assistant medical examiners of the Office of the Medical Examiner, in any matter before them; (9) registrars of vital statistics, in any matter before them; (10) any chief inspector or inspector appointed pursuant to section 51-286; (11) registrars of voters, deputy registrars, assistant registrars, and moderators, in any matter before them; (12) special assistant registrars, in matters provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 9-19b and section 9-19c; (13) the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and any sworn member of any local police department or the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in all affidavits, statements, depositions, complaints or reports made to or by any member of any local police department or said Division of State Police or any constable who is under the supervision of said commissioner or any of such officers of said Division of State Police and who is certified under the provisions of sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive, and performs criminal law enforcement duties; (14) judge advocates of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps, law specialists of the United States Coast Guard, adjutants, assistant adjutants, acting adjutants and personnel adjutants, commanding officers, executive officers and officers whose rank is lieutenant commander or major, or above, of the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103, to persons serving with or in the armed

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forces, as defined in said section, or their spouses; (15) investigators, deputy investigators, investigative aides, secretaries, clerical assistants, social workers, social worker trainees, paralegals and certified legal interns employed by or assigned to the Public Defender Services Commission in the performance of their assigned duties; (16) bail commissioners and intake, assessment and referral specialists employed by the Judicial Department in the performance of their assigned duties; (17) juvenile matter investigators employed by the Division of Criminal Justice in the performance of their assigned duties; (18) the chairperson of the Connecticut Siting Council or the chairperson's designee; (19) the presiding officer at an agency hearing under section 4-177b; (20) family relations counselors employed by the **Judicial** Department and support enforcement officers investigators employed by the Department of Social Services Bureau of Child Support Enforcement and the Judicial Department, in the performance of their assigned duties; (21) the chairperson, vicechairperson, members and employees of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, in the performance of their assigned duties; (22) the Commissioner of Correction or the commissioner's designee; and (23) sworn law enforcement officers, appointed under section 26-5, within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, in all affidavits, statements, depositions, complaints or reports made to or by any such sworn law enforcement officer.

1517 Sec. 45. Sections 51-75 and 52-92 of the general statutes are repealed. 1518 (*Effective October 1, 2012*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:				
Section 1	July 1, 2012	2-40a		
Sec. 2	October 1, 2012	6-32d(c)		
Sec. 3	January 1, 2013	14-140		
Sec. 4	October 1, 2012	14-296aa(j)		
Sec. 5	October 1, 2012	47a-23a(a)		
Sec. 6	October 1, 2012	47a-26h(c)		
Sec. 7	October 1, 2012	51-53		

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Sec. 8	October 1, 2012	51-94a
Sec. 9	October 1, 2012	51-164n
Sec. 10	October 1, 2012	51-181c(a)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2012	4b-55(j)
Sec. 12	July 1, 2012	51-197f
Sec. 13	July 1, 2012	51-198
Sec. 14	July 1, 2012	51-201
Sec. 15	July 1, 2012	51-207
Sec. 16	October 1, 2012	51-222a(a)
Sec. 17	October 1, 2012	51-243(d) and (e)
Sec. 18	October 1, 2012	52-72
Sec. 19	October 1, 2012	53a-29
Sec. 20	October 1, 2012	53a-217(a)
Sec. 21	October 1, 2012	54-102g
Sec. 22	October 1, 2012	New section
Sec. 23	October 1, 2012	54-66a
Sec. 24	October 1, 2012	54-142a(c)
Sec. 25	October 1, 2012	54-143b
Sec. 26	October 1, 2012	54-203
Sec. 27	October 1, 2012	54-209
Sec. 28	October 1, 2012	54-210(a)
Sec. 29	October 1, 2012	54-211(d) and (e)
Sec. 30	October 1, 2012	54-212(b)
Sec. 31	October 1, 2012	19a-112f(b)
Sec. 32	July 1, 2012	New section
Sec. 33	July 1, 2012	46b-1
Sec. 34	October 1, 2012	54-108e
Sec. 35	October 1, 2012	46b-124(d)
Sec. 36	October 1, 2012	54-63b(a)
Sec. 37	October 1, 2012	54-63c
Sec. 38	October 1, 2012	54-63d
Sec. 39	October 1, 2012	54-64a(c)
Sec. 40	October 1, 2012	54-69
Sec. 41	October 1, 2012	54-69a
Sec. 42	October 1, 2012	54-71a
Sec. 43	October 1, 2012	46b-38c(c)
Sec. 44	October 1, 2012	1-24
Sec. 45	October 1, 2012	Repealer section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 15(c), "[including senior judges of the Supreme Court and] judges and senior judges of the Appellate Court" was changed to "[including senior judges of the Supreme Court] and <u>one or more</u> judges and senior judges of the Appellate Court" for consistency and accuracy.

JUD Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 13 \$	FY 14 \$
Judicial Dept.	GF - Savings	120,000	120,000
Judicial Dept.	CICF - Cost	72,500	72,500
Judicial Dept.	CICF - Savings	30,000	30,000

Note: GF=General Fund; CICF=Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes various revisions to statutes concerning the Judicial Department court operations and the Office of Victim Services, with fiscal impacts as follows:

Section 7 provides for the electronic delivery of court notices, orders, decisions, executions or other documents by court clerks and will result in a savings to the Judicial Department of \$120,000.¹

Section 27 authorizes the Office of Victim Services (OVS) within the Judicial Department to compensate individuals who are victims of sexual assault or child abuse and have disclosed the information to certain individuals. To the extent that victims take advantage of this change, an estimated increased cost of \$50,000 to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF) will result in order to provide compensation to qualifying victims.² This estimate assumes about 30 victims will receive compensation as a result of this change.

Sections 28 and 29 remove the \$100 deductible that is required

¹ In 2011, the Judicial Department spent approximately \$650,000 in regular postage related to court operations and support enforcement.

² In 2011, the OVS provided approximately \$1.2 million worth of criminal injury awards from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund.

before a crime victim can receive compensation. To the extent that this increases the number of people who are eligible for victim compensation, an estimated increased cost of \$22,500 to the CICF will result in order to provide compensation to victims who have total losses of less than \$100. This estimate assumes 300 additional victims will receive compensation of \$100 or less.

Section 30 clarifies that the OVS is entitled to be reimbursed for compensation it has paid to victims who have received compensation for the same item from another source, regardless of the source. As this currently does not occur in many instances, the amount estimated to be recovered is less than \$30,000 as a result of this change.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of victims seeking compensation.

Sources: Core-CT Financial Accounting System

OLR Bill Analysis sHB 5365

AN ACT CONCERNING COURT OPERATIONS AND VICTIM SERVICES.

SUMMARY:

This bill makes numerous changes to court operations and victim services. It:

- 1. makes judge trial referee evaluations available to Judiciary Committee members before a hearing on a referee's nomination;
- 2. allows the Judicial Branch to enter into agreements with other agencies on a broader range of security matters;
- 3. requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to suspend the license and registration of someone who does not pay certain fees;
- 4. makes changes regarding summary process and occupants of nonresidential property;
- 5. expands the courts' use of electronic documents and communications;
- 6. indemnifies attorneys appointed by the court to inventory the files of inactive, suspended, disbarred, or resigned attorneys in the same way as state employees;
- 7. specifies that someone who pleads not guilty to an infraction or certain violations can, at a court proceeding, agree with the prosecutor on the amount of the fine and pay it without appearing before a judicial authority;
- 8. alters the rules for constituting a Supreme Court panel and

agreeing to hear an appeal from an Appellate Court decision;

9. requires DMV to give the jury administrator the latest updated file of people holding identity cards to use when compiling the master list for summoning jurors;

- 10. allows alternate jurors in civil trials to remain in service after deliberations begin;
- 11. specifies that motor vehicle violations punishable by a sentence of more than one year are considered unclassified felonies for certain purposes;
- 12. automatically terminates a defendant's bail bond when he or she is admitted to the supervised diversionary program for people with psychiatric disabilities, as for other diversionary programs;
- 13. requires a defendant to make a motion for a nolle 13 months after a prosecutor continues a case and there is no prosecution or disposition in order to have the records erased, instead of having the records automatically qualify for erasure;
- 14. authorizes victim compensation when the Judicial Branch's Office of Victim Services (OVS) or a victim compensation commissioner reasonably concludes that (a) an alleged sexual assault crime or risk of injury to a minor occurred and (b) the personal injury was disclosed to certain individuals;
- 15. eliminates the \$100 deductible on the total amount of victim compensation determined for an injury (§§ 28-29);
- 16. expands OVS's lien for reimbursement of compensation paid to someone;
- 17. specifies that Connecticut courts can issue orders regarding civil unions performed in other jurisdictions;
- 18. limits access to information on certain plans developed by probation officers and expands access to juvenile delinquency

records;

19. allows Court Support Services Division (CSSD) personnel to use videoconferencing to interview defendants at police stations, when determining appropriate bail and conditions of release (§ 36);

- 20. extends to intake, assessment, and referral (IAR) specialists many of the duties, responsibilities, and protections given to bail commissioners;
- 21. repeals authority for judges to appoint messengers and assistant messengers and set their compensation and assignments (§ 45); and
- 22. repeals obsolete provisions and makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012; except for the provisions on (1) judge trial referee evaluations, Supreme Court certification and panels, and civil unions from other jurisdictions, which are effective July 1, 2012 and (2) suspending a license and registration for failing to pay certain fees, which is effective January 1, 2013.

§ 1 — JUDGE TRIAL REFEREE EVALUATIONS

The bill requires the Judicial Branch to make performance evaluations of judge trial referees available to the Judiciary Committee's members before a public hearing on the referee's nomination. Committee members must use the information only for the purposes for which it was given and they cannot further disclose it. Existing law requires the branch to make judges' evaluations available under the same circumstance and conditions.

§ 2 — AGREEMENTS WITH AGENCIES RELATED TO SECURITY

The law allows the Judicial Branch to enter agreements with other state agencies for management, training, or coordination related to courthouse security. The bill also allows the branch to enter these

agreements for other security matters.

§ 3 — SUSPENDING LICENSE AND REGISTRATION FOR FAILURE TO PAY CERTAIN FEES

The bill requires the court to report to DMV anyone who fails to pay a fee for (1) probation; (2) analysis of a controlled substance in relation to a conviction; or (3) participation in the pre-trial program for treatment of alcohol or drug dependency, pretrial family violence education program, community service labor program, accelerated rehabilitation program, pretrial alcohol education program, or pretrial drug education program. The DMV commissioner then suspends the person's motor vehicle registration and operator's license.

By law, these same provisions apply to a person released on his or her own recognizance for a motor vehicle violation who willfully fails to appear for a court appearance; fails to pay, plead, or appear for an infraction; or fails to pay certain surcharges, fees, or costs. They also apply to certain violations related to transporting hazardous liquids or explosives.

§ 5 — SUMMARY PROCESS-NONRESIDENTIAL TENANT'S POSSESSIONS

When a lessee or occupant fails to leave after receiving the required summary process notice, an attorney must produce documents justifying the claim for immediate possession of the premises. If the claim involves nonresidential property, the bill requires, instead of allows, the documents to include a claim for the defendant's possessions and personal effects. The landlord must still follow existing law on disposing of a tenant's property.

§ 6 — SUMMARY PROCESS AGAINST A SINGLE NONRESIDENTIAL OCCUPANT DUE TO DRUG ACTIVITIES

The law allows a landlord to get a summary process judgment and enforce it against a single occupant, living with several others, who sells drugs (1) on the leased premises or (2) within 1,500 feet of the housing authority property within which he or she lives. The bill applies this to tenants of nonresidential property.

§ 7 — COMMUNICATIONS FROM COURTS

Under current law, a court clerk, including a probate court clerk, must notify counsel in writing of a court decision, order, decree, denial, or ruling unless the court made its ruling in the counsel's presence. The bill allows the written notice to be sent by mail or electronic means and requires notice to any appearing party as well.

The bill allows electronic communication by computer, fax, or other technology according to procedures and technical standards set by either the chief court administrator or probate court administrator. It gives notice delivered electronically the same validity and status as if sent by mail.

§ 8 — INDEMNIFICATION OF CERTAIN ATTORNEYS

The law immunizes from damages in civil suits attorneys who are appointed by the court pursuant to court rules to (1) inventory the files of an inactive, suspended, disbarred, or resigned attorney and (2) take necessary action to protect the clients' interests. They are immune for damages or injuries caused in the discharge of their duties unless they acted wantonly, recklessly, or maliciously.

The bill gives these attorneys the same indemnification as state officers and employees. This requires the state to hold the attorneys harmless and indemnify them for financial loss and expense from claims due to their alleged negligence, deprivation of civil rights, or other acts or omissions causing damage or injury. This applies when the attorneys are discharging their duties but does not cover wanton, reckless, or malicious conduct. The attorney general must provide their defense; but if he determines it is inappropriate to do so, the state must pay for counsel if the attorney is otherwise entitled to representation by the state.

§ 9 — AGREED FINES FOR INFRACTIONS AND VIOLATIONS

By law, people alleged to have committed infractions and certain violations can pay a fine by mail or choose to plead not guilty. The bill specifies that someone who pleads not guilty can, at a later Superior

Court proceeding, (1) agree with the prosecutor on the amount of the fine to pay and (2) pay it without appearing before a judicial authority. Under the bill, the amount of the fine cannot be more than the fine established for the infraction or violation, and the person must pay any additional fees and costs set for the infraction or violation. The person must pay the Superior Court clerk.

As for payments by mail under current law, payment under the bill is considered a plea of nolo contendere (no contest) and is inadmissible in any civil or criminal proceeding to establish the person's conduct, but it does not affect the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's or DMV's administrative sanctions authority.

Under the bill, the person does not need to submit a plea of nolo contendere in writing. The bill does not affect a person's right to request a trial.

§ 12 — SUPREME COURT CERTIFICATION FOR REVIEW

By law, an Appellate Court panel or aggrieved party can petition the Supreme Court to review an Appellate Court decision. Current law requires a vote of three Supreme Court justices to agree to review the decision. The bill also allows the court to review a decision on the vote of two judges if fewer than six are available to consider a petition.

§§ 13-15 — SUPREME COURT PANELS

Under current law, a party has a right to be heard by a panel of five Supreme Court members. The bill instead gives a party a right to a panel of at least five and requires the court to sit in panels of five, six, or seven judges under rules the court adopts.

The bill expands the use of senior judges on Supreme Court panels by allowing them to be part of a panel when at least one justice is disabled or disqualified or the business of the court requires it. Currently, they can only sit on a panel if the court's members cannot constitute a panel.

The bill also expands the circumstances when Superior Court judges

and Appellate Court judges and senior judges can be summoned to sit on a panel to include anytime it is necessary for the court's business and Supreme Court senior judges are unavailable. Currently, they can be summoned if a panel cannot be constituted of Supreme Court justices due to disability or disqualification.

§ 16 — LIST OF PEOPLE HOLDING IDENTITY CARDS USED FOR JUROR LISTS

The bill requires DMV to give the jury administrator the latest updated file of people holding identity cards to use when compiling the master list for summoning jurors. The bill adds this to the lists of licensed drivers, residents with permanent place of abode in Connecticut who filed a personal income tax return in the last tax year, unemployment compensation recipients, and electors that the administrator uses to compile the master list. By law, the administrator must attempt to delete duplicate names, names of those excluded from jury service, and names of deceased people before randomly summoning jurors.

§ 17 — ALTERNATE JURORS IN CIVIL TRIALS

By law, an alternate juror becomes part of the jury panel in a civil case if a juror dies or the judge excuses a juror who is unable to perform his or her duty. Under current law, alternates are excused when the jury begins deliberations. Under the bill, the court (1) can keep alternates in service after deliberations begin and (2) if an alternate joins the regular panel after deliberations began, must instruct the jury to start deliberations anew.

§§ 19-22 — MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS AS FELONIES

Under case law, a second conviction of driving under the influence (CGS § 14-227a), which carries a possible prison term of over one year, is a criminal offense and not a motor vehicle violation (*McCoy v. Commissioner of Public Safety*, 300 Conn. 144 (2011)).

The bill specifies that any motor vehicle violation for which a sentence of more than one year may be imposed (see BACKGROUND)

is considered an unclassified felony for purposes of:

 sentencing to probation, and thus a person convicted of one of these motor vehicle violations can be sentenced to up to three years probation, but up to five years on a case-by-case basis, and can be considered for early termination of his or her probation terms;

- 2. the crime of criminal possession of a firearm or electronic defense weapon, which can be committed by possessing one of those items while having a prior felony conviction, thus qualifying one of these motor vehicle violations as a prior felony conviction;
- 3. taking a sample for DNA testing based on a felony conviction; and
- 4. the interstate compact for adult offender jurisdiction, which governs supervision of adult offenders in the community who are authorized under the compact to travel across state lines.

§ 23 — TERMINATION OF BAIL BONDS

The bill automatically terminates a defendant's bail bond when he or she is admitted to the supervised diversionary program for people with psychiatric disabilities. The law already terminates bonds on admission to other programs such as accelerated rehabilitation, the pretrial alcohol education program, the community service labor program, and the pretrial drug education program.

§ 24 — ERASURE OF CERTAIN RECORDS

By law, all police, court, and prosecutorial records of a criminal charge that is nolled (the state declines to prosecute) are erased if at least 13 months have passed since the nolle. Current law also considers a case nolled and allows records to be erased if the prosecutor continues the case and there is no prosecution or disposition for 13 months. The bill requires the arrested person to make a motion for a nolle after 13 months in order to have the records erased.

§ 25 — BAIL BONDS

By law, the total amount of a forfeited bond for a motor vehicle violation that is composed in part of certain additional fees and costs imposed on these violations must be deposited in the General Fund or Special Transportation Fund. The bill adds to the list of fees and costs the \$10 surcharge on certain motor vehicle violations that the state must remit to the municipalities where the violations occurred. The surcharge applies to anyone who pays a fine or forfeiture for any of 35 motor vehicle violations, including: (1) speeding, (2) reckless driving, (3) driving under the influence, (4) making an illegal turn, (5) failing to yield right of way, (6) failing to stop for a school bus (for a first offense), and (7) failing to stop at a stop sign. The surcharge also applies to anyone who pays a fine or forfeiture under any ordinance enacted in accordance with these laws. The Superior Court clerk or the chief court administrator (or her designee) must certify to the comptroller the amount due for the previous quarter to each municipality.

§§ 26-31 — VICTIMS

Administering Compensation and Services (§ 26)

By law, OVS can apply for and use grants to implement victim services and award grants or purchase services. The bill deletes a provision requiring it to do so according to a plan developed by January 1, 1994, in coordination with various agencies, to effectively administer victim compensation and coordinate delivery of services.

Victim Compensation for Alleged Sexual Assault or Risk of Injury Crimes (§ 27)

The bill authorizes victim compensation when OVS or a victim compensation commissioner reasonably concludes that (1) an alleged sexual assault crime or risk of injury to a minor occurred and (2) the personal injury was disclosed to certain individuals. The bill applies to the crimes of sexual assault in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th degree or 3rd degree with a firearm; 1st degree aggravated sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault of a minor; sexual assault in a spousal or cohabiting relationship; and risk of injury to a minor. Compensation can be paid if

the personal injury is reported to a:

 licensed physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse, practical nurse, psychologist, marital and family therapist, professional counselor, or clinical social worker;

- 2. resident physician or intern at a hospital, whether or not licensed;
- 3. police officer;
- 4. mental health professional;
- 5. licensed or certified emergency medical services provider or alcohol and drug counselor;
- 6. sexual assault or battered women's counselor; or
- 7. Department of Children and Families employee.

By law, OVS may compensate victims injured or killed as a result of (1) attempts to prevent crime, aid police, or apprehend criminal suspects; (2) attempts or actual commissions of any crime by another; (3) operation of a motor vehicle by someone else who is convicted of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, second-degree assault with a motor vehicle while intoxicated, or second-degree manslaughter with a motor vehicle while intoxicated; or (4) terrorist crimes.

OVS Liens (§ 30)

By law, OVS has a lien against any amount an applicant for victim compensation wins in a suit against those responsible for the injury or death for which compensation was granted. This lien is for 2/3 of the amount paid for victim compensation or restitution services.

The bill also gives OVS a lien for the same amount of reimbursement on money an applicant recovers from other sources including payments from state or municipal agencies, insurance

benefits, or workers' compensation awards as a result of the incident or offense that gave rise to the application.

§§ 32-33 — CIVIL UNIONS FROM FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS

The bill specifies that Connecticut courts can enter orders of dissolution, annulment, or legal separation regarding valid civil unions performed in foreign jurisdictions. It deems these actions family relations matters. It is unclear whether the courts' authority over family matters currently extends to foreign civil unions.

§ 34 — ACCESS TO PROBATION OFFICER PLANS

Under the bill, information in alternative sentencing and community release plans prepared by probation officers is only available to:

- 1. Judicial Branch employees who require access to the information in performing their duties;
- 2. state and federal employees and authorized agents involved in the design and delivery of treatment services to the person who is the subject of the plan;
- 3. state or community-based agency employees providing services directly to the person; and
- 4. an attorney representing the person in any proceeding where the plan is relevant.

By law, probation officers:

- 1. must complete alternative sentencing plans for people who enter a stated plea agreement with a prison term of up to two years when the court orders them to and
- 2. may develop a community release plan for people sentenced to a prison term of up to two years who have (a) served at least 90 days in prison and (b) complied with Department of Correction prison rules and necessary treatment programs, and must apply

for a sentence modification hearing if they develop such a plan.

§ 35 — ACCESS TO JUVENILE RECORDS

Current law allows state and federal employees and authorized agents to access records of delinquency proceedings if they are involved in delinquency proceedings, providing services directly to the child, or designing or providing treatment programs for juvenile offenders. The bill also allows them access if they are involved in delivering court diversionary programs.

The bill also gives community-based youth service bureau officials access to these records if they are performing any of the functions listed above.

§§ 36-44 — INTAKE, ASSESSMENT, AND REFERRAL SPECIALISTS

The bill extends many of the duties, responsibilities, and protections given to bail commissioners to intake, assessment, and referral (IAR) specialists. These provisions, among other things, govern:

- 1. notice from police when a defendant is not released on bail,
- 2. interviewing and investigating the defendant to set conditions of release,
- 3. informing the court of a defendant who cannot meet the conditions of release,
- 4. appearing in court if a defendant does not intend to appear,
- 5. protection from civil liability for damages on account of releasing a person on bail,
- 6. receiving information about a defendant who is on or being considered for pretrial release from certain Judicial Branch employees in a local family violence intervention unit, and
- 7. administering oaths.

The Judicial Branch created the position of IAR specialist and these employees currently perform many of the same functions as bail commissioners.

BACKGROUND

Motor Vehicle Violations

The following list provides examples of motor vehicle violations that carry a prison term of more than one year:

- 1. possessing a motor vehicle with a changed identification number (CGS § 14-149(a));
- 2. altering a motor vehicle identification number (CGS § 14-149(e));
- 3. operating a chop shop (CGS § 14-149a);
- 4. motor vehicle title certificate fraud (CGS § 14-196(a));
- 5. willful misuse of motor vehicle title certificate (CGS § 14-196(b));
- 6. evading responsibility, when causing serious injury or death (CGS § 14-224(a));
- 7. driving under the influence, second and subsequent offenses (CGS § 14-227a);
- 8. driving under the influence when under age 21, second and subsequent offenses (CGS § 14-227g); and
- 9. using a traffic signal preemption device, when it results in an accident (CGS § 14-299a(f)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

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Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 42 Nay 0 (03/26/2012)
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